

VERTEBRAL STABILIZATION ASSEMBLY AND METHOD

ABSTRACT OF THE INVENTION

5 A vertebral stabilization assembly for stabilizing
vertebrae is provided. The vertebral stabilization assembly
includes a first and a second pedicle screw, a first and
second connecting screw, and a connecting member. The first
and second pedicle screws each have a shaft provided with a
10 threaded portion operable for threading engagement of the
first and second pedicle screws with a first and second
vertebra, respectively, each shaft also has an engaging
portion. The first and second connecting screws each have a
first end adapted to be received by the engaging portions of
15 the first and second pedicle screws, respectively. The
connecting member has a first end connected to the first
connecting screw and a second end connected to the second
connecting screw for stabilization of the first and second
vertebra. A guide member for placement of the connecting screw
20 and method for anteriorly stabilizing vertebrae is also
provided.